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PATENT

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Attorney Docket No.	Serial No.
100P270US01	10/781,397

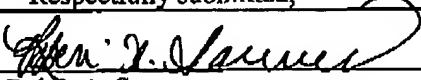
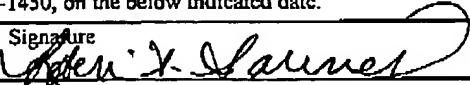
MS: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES: 93
Sent to Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306
Examiner Phone No.: 571-272-1180

In re Application of:	Daniel L. Franklin et al.		
Serial No.:	10/781,397	Examiner:	Ing Hour Lin
Confirmation No.:	1881	Art Unit:	1725
Filed:	February 18, 2004		
For:	METHOD OF DRYING A SAND MOLD USING A VACUUM		
We are transmitting the following documents:			
Facsimile Transmittal Letter [1 page]			
Fee Transmittal for FY 2005 [1 page]			
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement [2 pages]			
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form 1449) [1 page]			
Copies of cited references [7 references]			

Please charge Deposit Account 50-0549 for any fees under 37 CFR §1.16 and §1.17 that may be required during the pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary it is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 45,070	Direct Dial 612-331-7419	
Date: April 6, 2005		Robin A. Sannes
United States Patent and Trademark Office		
Customer No. 23322		
Certificate of Facsimile Transmission		
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being sent to the telephone number shown below, addressed to: MS: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.		
To Facsimile Number 703-872-9306	Signature 	
Date April 6, 2005	Printed Name Robin A. Sannes	
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PTO/SB/17 (12-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Effective on 12/09/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4218).**FEE TRANSMITTAL**
For FY 2005☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$) 180.00**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/761,397
Filing Date	February 18, 2004
First Named Inventor	Daniel L. Franklin et al.
Examiner Name	Ing Hour Lin
Art Unit	1725
Attorney Docket No.	100P270JS01

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)
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FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 or, for Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 or, for Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	Multiple Dependent Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 20 or HP = _____	x _____	= _____				
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20						
Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)			
- 3 or HP = _____	x _____	= _____				
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3						

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 = _____	/ 50 = _____	(round up to a whole number) x _____	= _____	

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other: Information Disclosure Statement (Fee Code 1806)

180.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	<i>Robin A. Sannes</i>	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,070	Telephone	612-331-7419
Name (Print/Type)	Robin A. Sannes			Date	April 6, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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APR 11 2005

10/781,397

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Daniel L. Franklin et al.	Examiner:	Ing Hour Lin
Serial No.:	10/781,397	Art Unit:	1725
Filed:	February 18, 2004	Confirmation No.:	1881
		Docket No.:	100P270US01

For: METHOD OF DRYING A SAND MOLD USING A VACUUM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is submitted via facsimile to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 (703-872-9306) on April 6, 2005.


Robin A. Sannes

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(c))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, and before the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0549 the amount of \$180.00 for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

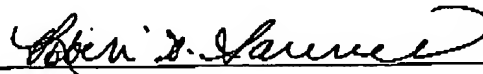
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0549.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL L. FRANKLIN ET AL.

Date: 04/06/2005

By: 
Robin A. Sannes
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RAS:db

OMB No. 0651-0031

Page 1 of 3

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	10/781,397
	Filing Date	February 18, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Daniel L. Franklin et al.
	Art Unit	1725
	Examiner Name	Ing Hour Lin
	Attorney Docket No.	100P270US01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code/Number/Kind Code				
		EP/0 371 895/A2	06/06/1990	Howmet Corporation		
		EP/0 608 926/A1	08/03/1994	General Motors Corp.		
		EP/0 780 175/A1	06/25/1997	General Motors Corp.		
		WO 98/17738	04/30/1998	Hormel Foods Corp.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T
		Eastman, J., "Protein-Based Binder Update: Performance Put to the Test," <i>Modern Casting</i> , pp. 32-34 (October 2000).	
		Ferrero, A. et al., "New Binder for Casting Cores: An Industrial Application to Safety Suspension Parts," <i>SAE Technical Paper Series, International Congress and Exposition, Detroit, Michigan</i> , Paper No. 981005 (pp. 1-6) (February 23-26, 1998).	
		Mus, C. et al., "Innovative Foundry Technologies for Safety Aluminum Suspension Parts and Complex Castings," <i>SAE Technical Paper Series, SAE World Congress, Detroit, Michigan</i> , Paper No. 2001-01-0407 (8 pgs.) (March 5-8, 2001).	

EXAMINER	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	